

Message Text

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ACTION EA-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 PRS-01 /005 W

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O R 170930Z APR 74 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5806

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 5496

USINFO ALSO FOR IOP/FW

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM

USINFO ALSO FOR IEA

BANGKOK FOR HEDGES

BANGKOK, HONG KONG AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

STATE FOR S/PRS AND EA/P

SECDEF FOR OASD/PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: KHMER SITUATIONER - APRIL 18,1974

1. COMMUNIST GUNNERS SHELLED KAMPOT WEDNESDAY WOUNDING SEVEN FANK SOLDIERS AND FOUR CIVILIANS. GOVERNMENT UNITS ADVANCED ANOTHER TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY METERS IN THE CONTINUING OPERATION TO EXPAND THE NORTHERN DEFENSE PERIMETER. COMMUNIST MILITARY ACTIVITY NEAR THE CITY WAS COMPARATIVELY LIGHT.

2. AT TAKEO, FANK REPORTED TWO SOLDIERS WERE WOUNDED WEDNESDAY DURING A LIGHT COMMUNIST MORTAR AND GROUND ATTACK EAST OF THE
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CITY. FANK REPORTED THAT A MULTI-BATALLION OPERATION WAS

LAUNCHED TO REINFORCE GOVERNMENT UNITS AT MOHA SANG, TWELVE KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF KOMPONG SPEU ON ROUTE 4. FANK ALSO REPORTED KILLING TWENTY COMMUNIST SOLDIERS IN AN OPERATION TO EXPAND THE PERIMETER OF A GOVERNMENT OUT-POST SIXTY-FIVE KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF SIEM REAP. GOVERNMENT CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS LIGHT.

3. IN THE PHNOM PENH AREA WEDNESDAY, COMMUNIST ELEMENTS MAINTAINED PRESSURE ON GOVERNMENT POSITIONS IN THE BASSAC-ROUTE 30 AREA SOUTHEAST OF THE CITY. NO COMMUNIST GROUND ATTACKS WERE REPORTED, BUT INTERMITTENT COMMUNIST MORTAR ATTACKS DURING THE PAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS RESULTED IN LIGHT FANK CASUALTIES.

4. GOVERNMENT FORCES ADVANCED NORTHWARD ANOTHR SIX HUNDRED METERS TOWARD KRUOS ON ROUTE 5 WEDNESDAY KILLING THREE COMMUNIST SOLDIERS, CAPTURING TWO PRISONERS AND SEIZING SIX WEAPONS. COMMUNIST PRESSURE ON GOVERNMENT POSITIONS AT KOMPONG LUONG AND LOVEK REMAINED AT REDUCED LEVELS. A KHMER NAVY RESUPPLY CONVOY REACHED KOMPONG LUONG FROM PHNOM PENH YESTERDAY AND REPORTS ONLY SCATTERED COMMUNIST SHORE-FIRE EN ROUTE.

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